25th January 1949]

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message received from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly, dated Fort St. George, the 24th January 1949 :—

' In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1949), as passed by the Assembly on the 24th January 1949, and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council '."

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message received from His Excellency the Governor of Madras, dated the 7th December 1948 :—

' In pursuance of section 82, sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Krishnakumarsinhji Bhavsinhji, Governor of Madras, hereby recommend to the Madras Legislative Council the consideration of the Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Bill, 1948 '."

IV.—THE MADRAS CITY POLICE AND GAMING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1948 (L.A. BILL No. 10 OF 1948).

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

> '*that the Madras City Police and Gaming (Amendment) Bill*[a], 1948 (*L.A. Bill No.* 10 *of* 1948), *as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.*'

" Sir, this Bill seeks to amend the Madras City Police Act and the Madras Gaming Act so as to prevent betting within race enclosures and also to prevent the publication of news of race acceptances, etc., in the newspapers. It was the hon. the ex-Leader of the Opposition who sought to move a Bill to make betting an offence as early as July 1946 but that was not proceeded with because even then, Government had under contemplation the necessary legislation to prevent betting within race enclosures. Since then, Government published their Bill and it was introduced sometime last year in the Assembly and after examination by the Select Committee, some changes were introduced in the Bill by the Select Committee, and the Bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly as approved by the Select Committee, and it is now before this House. It is now really too late in the day to argue in favour of the continuance of betting, although one leading daily newspaper still thought fit to argue that there has been no agitation in favour of abolishing betting and that only a very few are to be affected by the betting in the races and that therefore, this

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[a] **Printed as Appendix II on pages 913–915 infra.**